

*Cario Middle School*  
**School Improvement Council**  
**“Report to the Parents”**  
**2012-13**

## **Purpose of the Report**

*“This Report is issued by the Cario Middle School School Improvement Council in accordance with South Carolina law to share information on the school's progress in meeting various goals and objectives, the work of the SIC, and other accomplishments during the school year.”*

## **Thomas Cario Middle Mission Statement:**

The mission of Thomas Cario Middle School is to nurture a love of learning through challenging academics and a supportive environment where every student is valued, is taught to think critically and creatively, and is expected to model dignity and respect.

## **Administrative Team:**

Murton J. Hudson, Principal  
Benjamin Brownell, Assistant Principal  
Danielle Hutcherson, Assistant Principal  
Nathan Wood, Assistant Principal

## **SIC Members**

Kim Lapin, Chair  
Majorie White, Vice Chair  
Jennifer Gomez, Secretary  
Gretchen Bunker  
Karen Hastings  
Pamela Allen  
Laurie Priester, PTSO President

Midge Moran  
John Allen  
Tracy Hart  
Rev. Isaac Grant  
Erica Mims-Carlton  
Vaudrien and William Ray  
Susan Gourdin, PTSO Vice President

## **SIC Annual Goals**

Our vision is to build communications with the community, within the school and with parents. We plan to build positive relationships with the children and the community. We will focus on closing the achievement gap processing programs and individual student needs to support growth of every child. Ultimately, we will make Cario Middle School the best school in the State of South Carolina.

We will continue to utilize the Measures of Academic Progress tests (MAP) to identify standards and objectives on which we need to focus for whole group instruction while also using these results to help us identify students who are in need of additional interventions in reading and math.

Our focus is to ensure every child is successful at Cario Middle School. We plan to provide additional interventions focused on mathematics and English content to close the achievement gap. A

Our goal is to have every child meet standard on the South Carolina PASS Assessment, to close the achievement gap, and assist with increasing the graduation rate in Charleston County.

## Student Achievement

### Earned Palmetto Gold Award

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Excellent
2010	Excellent	Excellent
2009	Excellent	Average

**School Achievements** On the 2012 state school report card, Cario earned an “Excellent” achievement rating and an “Excellent” improvement rating. Our students have shown growth in reading, mathematics, and language usage through their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) scores and have also consistently demonstrated mastery of rigorous academic standards. Cario students excel in both the arts and athletics. The Cario Chorus received a Superior Rating at the SC Concert Festival and was invited to perform and the national conference for music educators.. Orchestra students received superior ratings at the SC Concert Festival and was also invited to perform at the music educator’s conference. Cario’s band received the state’s Outstanding Performance Award for the eleventh consecutive year and earned superior ratings at the SC Concert Festival. They also broke a state record with 20 All-State recipients. Visual artists have earned numerous awards, including two first placing in state and national competitions. Drama students were involved in several productions during the year including a full performance of “Annie, Jr.”. Cario teams competed in football, volleyball cheerleading, soccer, tennis, swimming, golf, baseball, and softball. Student council sponsored multiple community service projects, and the yearbook staff produced a high-quality publication.

## Additional Information

- Cario Middle School is a No Child Left Behind Receiving School.
- We currently have 1374 students in grades 6-8
- We provide rigorous instruction with 100 qualified staff members
- Professional development is provided to all staff throughout the school year focusing on best strategies, our school vision, and the Common Core Standards
- We provide a quality honors program at all grade levels
- We utilize rubrics approved by the district to help us place students appropriately and provide the necessary interventions as needed
- Cario Middle School believes that parent involvement and positive relationships with the community support the development of successful students. We encourage parent volunteers and encourage open communications to support all children and their families

## **Principal's Report:**

Cario Middle School continues its tradition of excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Cario is a highly successful middle school with a large campus, a small-school atmosphere, and huge opportunities for students. On the 2012 state school report card, Cario earned an "Excellent" absolute rating and an "Excellent" growth rating, and received an "A" rating on our progress towards our Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) goals.

Our students have shown growth in reading, mathematics, and language usage through their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) scores and have also consistently demonstrated mastery of rigorous academic standards according to PASS results.

Cario provides a quality honors program at all grade levels, as well as a structured system of interventions for students who need academic assistance. Students have opportunities to earn high school credits and may take exploratory courses such as Spanish, pre-engineering, health, drama, and fitness. Cario has one of the highest percentages of students identified as gifted and talented (GT) in CCSD. Cario students competed in academic challenges such as the SC Science Olympiad (2nd place in the state) and Quest (overall 1<sup>st</sup> place).

Cario students excel in both the arts and athletics. The Cario Chorus, orchestra, and band all received superior ratings at the SC Concert.. Visual artists have earned numerous awards, including in local, state, and federal recognition in numerous contests. Drama students were involved in several productions during the year including a full performance of "Annie, Jr.". Cario teams competed in football, volleyball cheerleading, tennis, swimming, golf, and chess. Student council sponsored multiple community service projects, and the yearbook staff produced a high-quality publication.

The Cario staff has participated in on-going professional development (PD) in order to meet the needs of our students. PD focused on active engagement in the learning process, implementation of the CCSD Coherent Curriculum, instructional technology, positive behavioral interventions and supports, Common Core Standards, and interdisciplinary lesson development based on students' needs. Cario's staff includes eleven members who have earned National Board Certification and ten teachers with GT endorsements. Forty-one percent of faculty members hold advanced degrees. Cario Middle School uses the Making Middle Grades Work model to implement positive changes in our school. We recognize the importance of high expectations, rigorous academics, and a safe, supportive learning environment for all students. As partners in education, our faculty and staff, parents, and community members support and actively participate in making Cario Middle School a model for educational excellence.

Murton J. Hudson, Principal  
Kimberly Lapin, SIC Chair